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The Times Dispatch

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GIVE BRISTOL JUSTICE.

Virginia wants Bristol kept on the post-office map. Both justice and good business sense should make the President and Postmaster-General Harrison act favorably upon the representations to be made by the Virginia delegation in Congress and by the citizens of the border community. There is no reason in the world why the Bristol, Va. man should have to get his mail addressed to Bristol, Tenn. To deprive this prosperous and growing town of its own post-office would destroy its identity, injure its business and have far-reaching political influence. We do not believe that post-offices should be maintained or moved for political purposes, and we trust that the facts in this case will be sufficiently convincing to lead the authorities to preserve the office in the interests of efficiency and for the increase of postal business.

Both Bristol and the State have a stake in the matter. What reason can be advanced for depriving the supporting town of its mailing facilities and giving all the facilities to the other in a different State? The balance of justice ought to hang pretty even in this matter on theory, and it should incline actively toward Virginia as a practical measure. Our Bristol has the call, as is evidenced by the actual figures. For more than fifty years it had no post-office, though during that time it has more than half the patronage received by the office. In spite of opposition from Tennessee Democratic Senators and the obstructionist tactics employed by the postal department itself, when the office was opened in Virginia it proved to be a simple self-sustaining.

It has been paying the government over \$1,500 a month, or \$15,000 a year net receipts. Business is rapidly increasing, and it is declared that the Virginia office is now doing more business than the Tennessee establishment. In light of this, it is any wonder that the unheeded offer from Washington that Bristol, Va., would be wiped off the map after July 31, surprised both the citizens and their representatives. It would seem a foolish proceeding for the government to run the office of handicapping a city that was paying handsomely. This is poor business judgment.

Politically, Virginia deserves consideration at the hands of a Democratic administration. The office is particularly valuable to the party in this State. For every reason, we hope the powers in Washington will see it to keep the office where it stands, and promote Virginia's interests.

SECRETARY BRYAN'S NICARAGUA PROPOSAL.

The proposed treaty of Secretary of State Bryan with Nicaragua, now before the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, and which contemplates a virtual pro-lease of the Central American republic involves a long step in advance of the Knox-Taft treaties with Nicaragua and Honduras, that were rejected under the criticism of "border diplomacies." These, in brief, provided that the United States should supervise the collection and protect the customs revenues of the two republics in order to insure payment of interest on money required to refund their national debts, as represented in loans for the purpose American bankers were willing to negotiate with them.

In addition, so far as Nicaragua was concerned, it was stipulated that in return for a payment of \$200,000 by the United States, this country should have the exclusive right to build a canal across Nicaragua, a ninety-nine year lease of a naval base in Fonseca Gulf, and two islands in the Caribbean.

The Bryan treaty, as we understand from the published outline, besides three stipulations, obligates Nicaragua to repair, strengthen or indemnify in making foreign treaties, and not to permit any foreign power to obtain lodgment in her territory for military or naval purposes. Nicaragua would be pledged not to contract any unwarranted public debt, though the way would be open for her to negotiate any actually needed loans, and the United States would be empowered to intervene at any time to protect life and property, and insure stable government, thus guaranteeing assistance against both outside and inside foes, a consideration among others which it is understood, has caused the present Nicaraguan government not only to be heartily in favor of, but anxious for ratification of the convention.

Whatever may be the objections to the treaty and the "unforeseen complications" it may hold for us, it at least has the merit of being frank, bold, direct and constructive. There would seem no question that it is not only not repugnant to the Monroe Doctrine, and therefore not open to challenge by the European powers, but would be calculated to eliminate further any menace to that doctrine—would materially confirm and clarify and render impregnable than ever Monroeism.

Furthermore, it would appear entirely in harmony with the national and international demands for security of the Panama Canal, especially in view of the fact that Costa Rica, wedged in

as she is between Nicaragua and Panama, logically could not long resist pressure to conclude a similar treaty. Nor can there be much doubt that in time Honduras, Guatemala and Salvador would follow suit, since the avowed and recognized honest anti-imperialism of Mr. Bryan should remove all suspicion that behind our policy is any purpose of, or ambition for, expansion at the expense of the Central American states, either now or in time to come.

On the face of things, and in present lights, the proposed protectorate would appear to commend itself strongly to the approval of the American people, and the Senate, irrespective of party. None the less, it should be most carefully weighed, and with a comprehensive and far look ahead, before action is taken one way or another.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SEGREGATION.

We have been much pleased to observe the spirit with which the press of the Commonwealth has received Mr. Moore's plan of segregation and to note that despite the very obvious defects of this tentative scheme, the newspapers are inclined to applaud Mr. Moore for his careful study and to make suggestions of real value.

Of these papers, few seem to have given more study to the matter than the Lynchburg News. In a recent article, the News calls attention to certain apparent errors in Mr. Moore's tables, and concludes with these pointed observations on the plan:

First, a care should be had as to the correctness of estimates.

Second, the maximum rate on intangible property should be increased—certainly to the inclusion of that portion which now goes to the State.

Third, cities and counties should reduce that part of the net tax to which, as the Richmond Times Dispatch insists, they are guaranteed by the Constitution.

Fourth, a renewed effort to equalize the volume of gain and burden of losses as between counties and cities with a view at least of seriously crippling none of them.

Fifth, provision for a wider margin of surplus between estimated State government expenses and receipts.

We heartily agree with all of these suggestions except the second. We can certainly not hope intelligently to discuss a plan unless it is in accurate form; we must correct such errors as naturally creep in; we must readjust losses and gains, and we must certainly allow a larger margin between receipts and expenses than Mr. Moore proposes—must, in fact, provide a much larger revenue.

But we would respectfully dissent from the proposal not to make compulsory a low rate on intangibles. A low local rate on stocks and bonds is one of the strongest features of Mr. Moore's plan. It will mean the end of what is certainly the most contradictory feature of our tax laws, it will encourage capital to come to Virginia, and, if the experience of Maryland is a guide, it will mean a larger revenue to the locality. In that state, as our readers will remember, unjust laws had led to the concealment of intangible wealth. The adoption of a more liberal policy in 1887 brought the total taxable intangible property from \$2,000,000 in that year to \$18,000,000 in 1912. Surely this was good business.

There are, however, peculiar conditions in Lynchburg which give the News warrant for condemning the local application of Mr. Moore's proposal. That city has a wonderful concentration of the revenue in William H. Snodgrass, who knows the holdings of every citizen and sees that they are on the tax books. Receiving now practically every dollar due from taxes on intangibles, Lynchburg would certainly be a loser for the time being were the rate reduced from \$150 to 75 cents. Yet we believe a more liberal rate would, in a few years, bring to the Hill City new capital sufficient to offset the loss.

We have argued this point because it is a most important feature of Mr. Moore's plan, and we shall probably discuss it again. But we have not the slightest idea that the General Assembly can be prevailed upon to adopt a low rate on intangibles. It would be too great an invasion of local rights for some of the patriots of the lower House. We could better employ our time by talking of things which have at least some prospect of becoming law.

"SINCERE, BUT ASTONISHING."

The man who wants a sidelight on precisely how provincial and snobbish a New England critic can be will not have to read Lowell, Emerson or even Dr. Holmes, that lovable Pharisee. One can find a very modern and amusing instance of New England on the fringe of criticism in the Springfield Republican's brief review of Professor Charles Ambrose Smith's "What Can Literature Do for Me?"

Altogether this is about as humorous a review as we have seen since Mark Twain wrote how an Englishman might be expected to pass on "Innocents Abroad." For instance, the writer, whoever he is, declares that Professor Smith's book is "interesting as revealing something of the standards of education and taste now prevailing in the South. And again, 'one is quite taken aback and embarrassed by the curious provincialism and chauvinism which color the judgments and determine the point of view throughout the book.'

Roll those on your tongue and stand them off at a distance and get them in perspective, go off and cool yourself, and then come and look at them again; say them aloud and try them on your innocent neighbors. They are fine.

But what does it really mean? Nothing in the world but another proof, if one were needed, that there are some in New England yet who cherish the tradition that from the Narragansett of the South no good thing can come forth. Nothing but the same old self-complacency that made them rank Longfellow as a first-rate poet and rank Lowell as but little removed from Shakespeare. Nobody ever expects from a Southern writer, it never has, and never will, in fact, were we to see a

complimentary reference to a Southern writer in a New England reference book or review, we should incline to the belief that we had mistaken the birthplace of the writer.

ENTROUSHERED DAMES.

The expected has happened, and even as the sheath-gown maiden followed the hobble-skirt damsel, so now the harem-skirt miss has fallen before the entroushered dame. If any one doubts the facts, he can convince himself by a glance at a picture of Mrs. John Boldt, of suffragist fame, which picture appears in this week's Collier's.

Although the editor of Collier's picture section modestly denominates them as trouserettes, there can be no dispute that they are trousers. They are long—to the very top of Mrs. Boldt's trim pumps—they are silk, and they are ornamented with charming insertion (we trust that is the proper word) just at the ankle line. To the whole is given a very chic effect by the addition of a final border of lace.

We are not advised that the proud possessor of these treasures wears them in the street, but we are informed that she has designed several styles of "trouserettes" and posed in the ones our unskilful pen has described above. You may like it or you may leave it, but the fact remains, she wears them, and is not ashamed of it.

For our part, we are very glad that the final form has been given the freakish effects which women—some women, rather—have cultivated in recent years. There is no other extreme to which they can resort, and consequently they will swing back to the modest styles of fifteen years ago. Hasten the day! And in the meantime let them go as far as they will, these erratic sisters, they will but hasten a reform which decency demands.

OFF TO HELP GREENFELL.

With a crew of young university men aboard, and laden with supplies, the schooner George Cluett dropped out of Boston harbor the other afternoon and headed northward for Labrador. With the vessel went the prayers and good wishes of thousands of Americans, for the Cluett is bound for Dr. Grenfell's mission.

One does not have to be a churchman to wish Grenfell well. One does not have to be pious to pray him success. One does not have to thrill with missionary fervor to feel his heart beat up at the thought of the good man whose heroic deeds have brought new fame to the Grand Banks.

Grenfell is a man in every sense of the word, and he is doing a man's work among the fishermen of Labrador and the Banks. There is nothing smug or sectarian about him, nothing over-pious or sanctimonious. He is full of red blood and human sympathy, and he ministers to the fishermen because his heart is in the right place.

It is significant that the ship which goes to help him is an absolute gift from friends in this country, and its crew is composed of volunteer workers, who will give freely of their time and ability for the good of the cause. It is always so. The missionary who does little gets little; the man who ministers to men never wants. Business men and physicians, lawyers and engineers, men who may not go to church or own a creed, are among Grenfell's chief supporters. And why? Because the world loves a worker and honors the brave!

Don voyage, good ship Cluett. Carry with you the best wishes of a nation to one of the truest and best of men!

A JUDICIAL REFORM EXAMPLE.

A "judicial reform" that has attracted quite widespread commendatory attention is embraced in a recent ruling of the Supreme Court of Alabama. It is that hereafter no case shall be reversed on account of a technical error unless it be shown affirmatively—positively—that the whole cause of the defendant would be injured by refusal.

While, on the one hand, in discussion of the ruling, which is necessarily binding on the lower courts, it is presumed that it does not appeal to the class of lawyers who "live in it for the money that is in it," on the other hand it is recognized that it must appeal to the layman, the average litigant and to the "far larger and less commercial body of the legal fraternity." The principle has from time to time received the indorsement of many of the latter and of prominent judges.

It is also recognized, as is argued, indeed, and with very convincing force, in the connection, that nothing could contribute more potentially to burying beyond resurrection the movement for recall of judges and judicial decisions than the following of the example of the Supreme Court of Alabama by the courts of last resort of other States. The argument carries conviction by reason of its being based on the undeniable fact that whatever popular favor the recall proposition has found has been the largely more to the law's delay and the cost thereof to litigants than to desire for "reform" in any other direction.

The Alabama Supreme Court's ruling strikes directly at that evil which the political propagandists of recall have aptly used to bolster their cause by stimulating dissatisfaction that had no bearing on the ends they had in view.

The shirt-sleeve would be more attractive did it not so often disclose an undarned stocking.

It would be all right for the Republicans to "view with alarm" the possible ravages of the law suit if they would just insist on wasting time telling about the view.

History question in the schools of 1913. Name that obscure President who had Bryan and Daniels in his Cabinet?

It is consoling to remember that while the philanthropists are feeding the mothers to get better babies, they are also getting better mothers.

The cat and mouse law in England seems to make Mrs. Pankhurst play puss-in-the-corner.

Some folks would buy a moth-eaten cane if it were a payment worth enough to tell Mr. Pankhurst with one little child is allus talkin' about his family.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

The System.

When all the town is swathed in heat And asphalt's melting in the street, Keep cool.

When it's so hot you can't keep cool, And can't buy more at any price, Just follow this profound advice, Keep cool.

When there is not a breath of air, That you can dig up anywhere, Keep cool.

When it's a hundred in the shade, When we are rained and are frayed, Be not discouraged or dismayed, Keep cool.

The Diary of a Housewife.

There are other ways of getting into trouble than by being President of Mexico, believes your Uncle Dudley, who knows. One of the best ways is by getting up a family picnic. We got one up this year. We were the angels of the occasion, and the event came off to-day.

It was an experiment, in the first place, to see if we could get a crowd of the relatives would speak to one another. We found out. Never again.

The next time we want to spend a pleasant day we are going to go and hunt up some nice quiet boiler shop, where the hammering is not so loud as it is at a family picnic. If we can't find a boiler shop, we are going to go and hunt up a nice choice Central American revolution and spend the day on the battlefield. On a battlefield they don't shoot anything at you but bullets.

Relatives who don't like one another are always tasty nice.

That's the way our picnic started out. They were all so nice to one another that they decided to have a picnic on the size of a woman's tongue appeared on the horizon. On the way out it was the calm before the storm, and everybody made such a point of being polite that they made it absolutely offensive. Every word that was said contained 10 per cent sincerity and 90 per cent sarcasm, and by the time we got to the picnic grounds the cloud that had appeared on the horizon in the early morning now enveloped the entire heaven and there wasn't a bright spot anywhere in the picnic party.

Every branch of our more or less illustrious family brought its own lunch basket and ate out of it, drawing itself away from all of the other branches of the family. Thus, when we sat down to dinner, our family was scattered until it covered fifteen acres of ground.

The relatives who were remembered in grandfather's will went out to the picnic grounds in their family car, a seven-passenger Jabberwock-Oshkosh, and the poor relations went out on the street car. Can any one in his right mind imagine those two factions getting together and having a good time at a picnic?

The situation became so strained, a clock in the afternoon that two old maid aunts who had lived together in harmony for forty years had a quarrel between themselves and decided to build a two-foot partition in their house.

Personally, a pleasant time was had. We pulled nine kids out of the river, sat down in a custard pie, accumulated a large population of chiggers and walked four miles for water which the relatives didn't dare drink for fear it was poisoned.

By 5 o'clock in the afternoon every member of the party hated us with an undying antagonism for having organized the picnic.

Never again. We are going to bury these clothes and forget the incident if we can.

Relatives will happen in the heat of the summer, but if you meet them in a social way, it is your own fault.

Voice of the People

Let Administrative Board Give Part of Their Loss Pay.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Now that the excitement incident to the recent disgraceful episode in the Administrative Board has subsided, let me say a few words briefly to consider the board itself, its constitution and the likelihood, as at present organized, of its success.

This idea of administrative boards is not bad, on the contrary. It is good, provided they are not handicapped by requirements impractical to success. We, however, have unfortunately handicapped our board in two material respects, which, unless repealed, may not improbably eventuate ere long in its downfall.

The principal handicap is the organic requirement that the members of the board devote their whole time to the city. Though unnecessary, this would not have been wrong, but the board is not composed of experienced men in large affairs, but it is believed that this can come about only by repealing the requirement of whole time. Repeal and save the board, or fail to repeal and it would not be surprising should the board, ere long, demand the abolition of the board.

CIVIS.

Ministers Are Not Money-Makers.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir:—In the editorial headed, "Should Pastors Be Allowed to Raise Unions," in a recent issue of your paper, it is unfortunate that the drift of the said article is to put too much emphasis on the office of pastor, and even to subject of pastors' salaries. You wrote in a very light, joking vein, with quite a bit of sarcasm apparent in your flings, at what seems to be the penuriousness of the church in the matter of ministerial support. While it is true that the average pay for the support of preachers is small, it ought to be kept in mind that the ministry was intended by the Founder of the Christian Church to be a money-making business. When men enter the Christian ministry for the sake of amassing money, it will be a sad day for our Lord's Church.

This spirit of greed and gain, so prevalent in the world, if it should dominate preachers of the gospel, every where would be a great calamity. The Master taught that "the laborer is worthy of his hire," and every minister of the gospel is entitled to a liberal support. While it is true that a great many faithful ministers receive only a pittance, and have to practice self-denial and make great sacrifices, it is also true that they get along and are happy in their work for the Master, who had no resting place He could call home.

Hypocritical clowns and vaudeville performers are in the business for the money, but when the preacher gets on the same par in respect to gain it will be a sad day for the church of God.

Workers Want Fruits.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir:—I want to thank you for so clearly pointing out what the executive board of the State Federation should have done instead of what they did do. If the board had done what the clowns in your editorial suggest there would have been no criticism of their action. They were simply adopting a short resolution declaring it as their opinion that labor men should support Mr. Brown.

If Mr. Koenig's record is a bad one from a workman's standpoint, and Mr. Brown's record is a good one from the same point of view, or vice versa, the duty devolved upon the executive board to give these records to the working people and let them act as their conscience suggested.

A declaration simply declaring it to

WE'LL HAVE A NICE CLEAN CONGRESS

ONE OF THESE DAYS.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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Views of the Virginia Editors

"Them Rebs."

There has been a very sudden and noticeable change in the attitude of the Virginia editors toward the North since the Gettysburg battle. The newspapers say, "Now we can see the light. We can break the bread of peace forevermore, for henceforth the Civil War is a silent toast." Not by a long way, and a yard wide. Down in these words the editors seem to be telling that the Civil War was a mistake, and that the North and South were both wrong. Gettysburg, Gettysburg, was a four-tenths prize package coupon for the Northern and Federal section of the country. Give us Gettysburg, where the battle was drawn and both armies maintained their lines, the North would actually have been left at the end of hostilities holding an empty bag waiting for ships. There would not have been for them a much-needed historical souvenir within their two and a half million square miles of territory. Hence, Gettysburg seems very large and precious to that people, and Meade, who sat in a fine saddle on that day and saw part of the fight, will pass always as a great general.

But say, "Don't you remember that there were other battles, the Forts other look in among Mrs. Darley's wax figures you'll find Federal generals four the next session of the General Assembly that time went come till old Time himself seasons the soup with a few more Gettysburgs."

Gettysburg was a Fourth of July racket—and a great racket it was, too. It was a day when the North and South battled in which McDowell, McClellan, Paine, Burnside, Hooker and other married up under Lee and won two battles out of three at Gettysburg. Think big, fight big, win big victories! Guess not—Fortsouth Star.

Richmond, Too.

It is important to remind members of the City Council, as well as citizens of Lynchburg generally, that the reform of the system of taxation in Virginia which now seems likely by the next session of the General Assembly in January, 1914, will vitally affect this city and its interests.

In this connection, it is not too early to suggest that the presidents of the various branches of the City Council and of the business men's organizations and other bodies, if deemed proper, name members of a joint committee to take up and consider the various plans of tax reform, so that when the question comes up for discussion and action in the General Assembly our representatives there will be in a position to know what the local sentiment is, and what the local situation will be under the various schemes for reform.

—Lynchburg Advance.

Help Wanted: Petersburg.

The Newport News Press publishes a statement from the representatives of a steamship line, which would seem to offer a solution of the domestic servant problem, not only for Newport News, but for other Virginia cities. The agent of the Norway-Mexico line, at Newport News, in a communication to the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of that city, states that his line will bring in handworking girls from foreign countries, anxious to secure employment as house servants. Employers would have to advance \$30, the cost of transportation for the servant, but one-half of this sum would be repaid from the wages of the servant. Cooks must be paid \$16 a month and housemaids \$12.

It would be about as easy for a Petersburg housewife to obtain a servant in the manner outlined as for a housewife of Newport News to get one in that way.—Petersburg Index-Appeal.

Chemical Bank.

Please give me the address of the Chemical Bank in New York City.

Charles E. L. 276 Broadway, "New York City" would be sufficient address.

Signers.

You tell me which of the signers of the Declaration of Independence lived to the greatest age and which died earliest.

Charles Carroll, of Maryland, and James Smith, of Pennsylvania, both lived to ninety-six. Thomas Lynch, of South Carolina, died at thirty. These are the extremes.

"Lochinvar."

Where may I find the poem, "Lochinvar," by Miss M. M. S.

Originally in Scott's "Marmion," and copied from there, in many collections, school readers, etc.

Lemon Peel.

We have a quantity of the peel of oranges and lemons. Can any use be made of it?

The only suggestion made here is that pickle factories might buy.

Carnegie Pensions, etc.

Where may I get full information about the Carnegie teachers' pension and about the Hasty Pudding Club at Harvard?

Miss J. E. M. The secretary, Clyde Park, 576 Fifth Avenue, New York City, can give the information about the first. The librarian, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., can inform you as to the second.